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MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR
20 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

OCTOBER 1983

A Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Message from Commissioner Malloy ...

THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR HAS NOW FULLY ESTABLISHED AN INTERNAL RANDOM AUDIT PROGRAM TO MONITOR THE PAYMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO CONDUCT AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT CLAIMANTS SELECTED ON A RANDOM BASIS. ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES OF THE INDIVIDUAL CLAIMANT'S UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PAYMENTS ARE EXAMINED IN DETAIL.

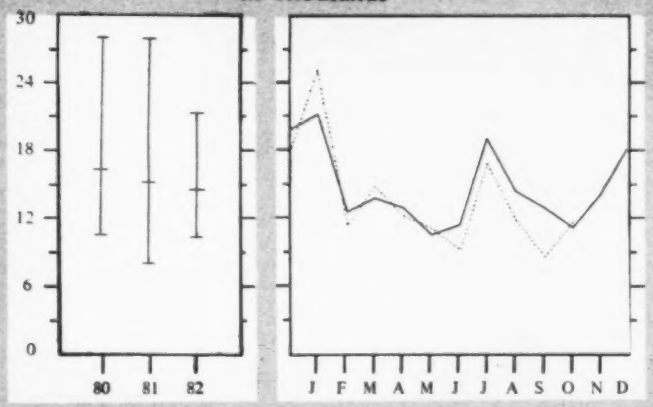
THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SUBMITS THE RESULTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL CASE STUDIES ON A QUARTERLY BASIS TO AN INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT. THE DEPARTMENT WILL DETERMINE IF POSSIBLE WEAKNESSES EXIST IN ANY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PROCESSES OR PROCEDURES AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS.

THE DETAILED CASE-BY-CASE STUDY SHOULD RESULT IN A REDUCTION OF ERRORS WHICH CAN CAUSE EITHER BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS OR UNDERPAYMENTS AND IMPROVED ADMINISTRATION LEADING TO BETTER SERVICE TO CLAIMANTS AND POSSIBLE REDUCED ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

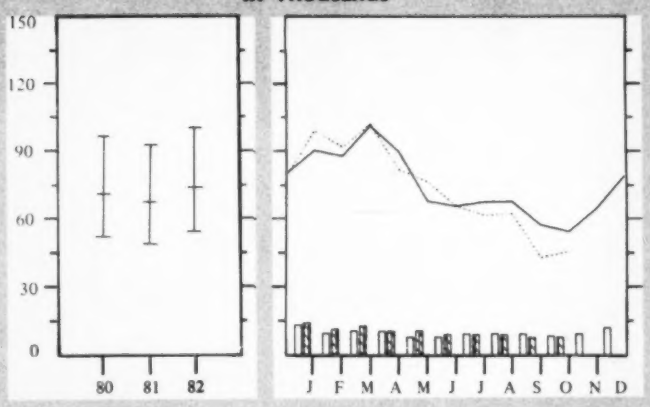
THE STATE OF MAINE WAS ONE OF THE EARLIEST STATES TO BEGIN PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERALLY FUNDED RANDOM AUDIT PROGRAM. MAINE'S PROGRAM BEGAN LAST MAY AND ALL STATES ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE PROGRAMS IN OPERATION BY NEXT YEAR.

THE COST OF CONDUCTING A COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATION OF ALL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PAYMENTS WOULD BE PROHIBITIVE. BY EXAMINING A COMPUTER SELECTED RANDOM SAMPLE THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WILL BE ABLE TO DETERMINE POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS, TRENDS AND TYPICAL INSTANCES OF ERROR IN A COST EFFECTIVE MANNER. IN THE LONG-TERM, THE COST OF THE PROGRAM SHOULD BE OUTWEIGHED BY THE BENEFITS OF GREATER ACCURACY AND EFFICIENCY.

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands



PERSONAL INCOME DATA AVAILABLE FROM DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PRODUCES DETAILED ESTIMATES OF STATE AND COUNTY PERSONAL INCOME WHICH ARE UPDATED ON A REGULAR BASIS. THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH OF THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED BY THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AS ONE OF THREE CONTACTS FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF THIS DATA IN MAINE.

THE DATA SOURCES USED TO DEVELOP THE ESTIMATES ARE VARIED, RANGING FROM INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TABULATIONS TO CENSUS COMMUTING PATTERNS. THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS HAS EXHAUSTED MANY STATISTICAL RESOURCES IN A COMPLEX METHODOLOGY WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR EVERY CATEGORY OF LEGAL INCOME FROM RENTS AND ROYALTIES TO FARM INCOME.

THESE DETAILED ESTIMATES HAVE MANY USES. THEY ALLOW ANALYSIS OF COUNTY ECONOMIES IN TERMS OF GROWTH AND STRUCTURE, PROVIDE A BASIS FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING, AND ARE USED IN THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS BY MANY FEDERAL PROGRAMS (EXAMPLES INCLUDE THE NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS FOR LIBRARIES AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, MEDICAID, AND AID TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN).

THE PERSONAL INCOME ESTIMATES ARE USED BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, INCLUDING TAX REVENUE PROJECTIONS AND PLANNING OF PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAMS. BUSINESSES USE THE ESTIMATES TO PLAN THE MARKETING OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AND FOR SITE SELECTION. THE ESTIMATES ARE ESPECIALLY USEFUL FOR THESE PURPOSES BECAUSE THEY ARE UP-TO-DATE AND DETAILED BY CATEGORY OF INCOME AND AREA.

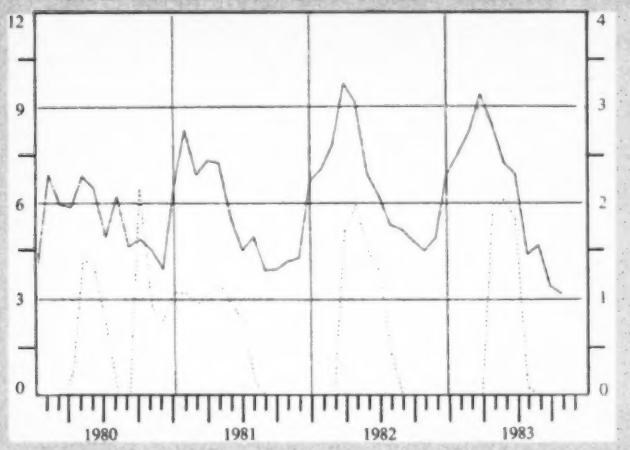
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Selected Employment Security Activities

UI Benefit Payments

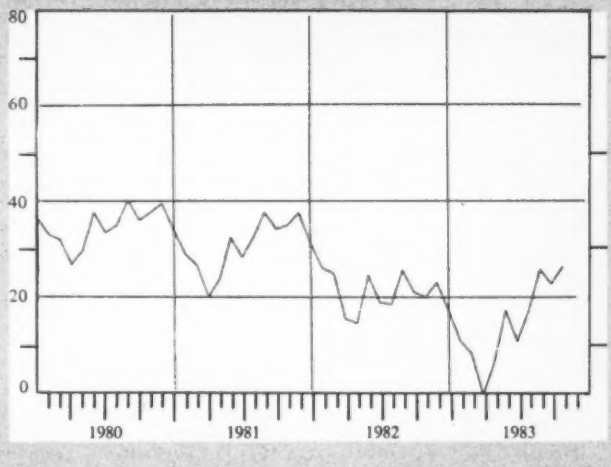
in Million Dollars

(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance in Millions

(End of Month)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work

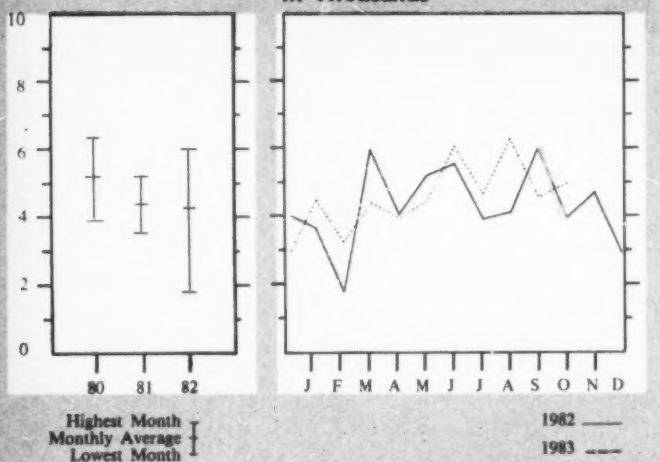
in Thousands

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary 1/	422.3	422.9	416.3	100.4	98.6	96.2	34.6	34.9	34.0
Total Manufacturing	108.5	108.8	108.1	16.9	16.9	16.9	11.6	11.7	10.9
Durable Goods	39.1	38.9	39.4	6.6	6.5	6.8	2.1	2.1	1.8
Lumber and Wood Products 2/	12.3	12.3	12.1	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Metals and Machinery	14.8	14.7	14.5	5.7	5.7	6.0	1.7	1.7	1.4
Other Durable Goods 3/	12.0	11.9	12.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Nondurable Goods	69.4	69.9	68.7	10.2	10.4	10.1	9.5	9.6	9.1
Food and Kindred Products	9.1	9.4	9.5	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.9	0.9	0.9
Textile Mill Products	7.1	7.0	6.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.6	1.6
Apparel	5.1	5.0	5.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.1	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.6	17.8	17.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Leather and Leather Products	20.2	20.3	20.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.4
Footwear (except Rubber)	17.0	17.0	16.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.1	3.1	2.8
All Other	3.2	3.3	3.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6	0.6	0.6
Other Nondurable Goods 4/	10.3	10.4	10.2	4.7	4.9	4.6	2.6	2.7	2.5
Total Nonmanufacturing	313.8	314.1	308.2	83.6	81.7	79.3	23.0	23.2	23.1
Contract Construction	19.0	18.8	18.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	1.4	1.5	1.4
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.1	18.5	18.0	6.1	6.2	6.0	1.3	1.3	1.3
Wholesale and Retail Trade	91.3	93.7	88.5	26.7	26.5	25.6	8.0	8.1	8.2
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	18.3	18.4	17.8	8.9	8.9	8.4	1.7	1.7	1.6
Service and Other Nonmanufacturing	82.8	84.5	81.2	23.3	23.0	21.1	7.4	7.5	7.5
Government	84.3	80.2	83.8	14.2	12.7	13.8	3.2	3.1	3.1
Federal	18.0	17.9	17.9	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
State and Local 5/	66.3	62.3	65.9	12.8	11.3	12.4	2.9	2.8	2.9
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/Employment figures relate to full - and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/Lumber and wood products, and furniture and fixtures are combined in the Portland series. 3/Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 37, 38; Portland - 32, 37, 38; Lewiston - 25, 32, 37. 4/Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Portland - 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39; Lewiston - 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 39. 5/Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. *Less than 50.

New Applications For Work

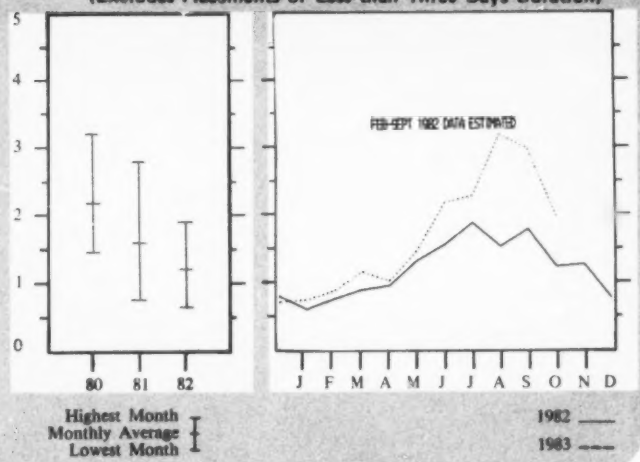
in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements

in Thousands

(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1982	1981	1980
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	306.80	310.64	294.52	40.0	40.5	39.8	7.67	7.67	7.40	$7.22	$6.66	$6.00
Durable Goods	324.82	329.26	318.39	40.2	40.8	40.1	8.08	8.07	7.94	7.59	6.97	6.27
Lumber and Wood Products	309.20	304.63	273.93	40.9	41.0	38.8	7.56	7.43	7.06	6.87	6.52	6.08
Metals and Machinery	305.56	310.90	291.46	40.1	40.8	39.6	7.62	7.62	7.36	7.15	6.61	5.87
Other Durable Goods	368.68	381.92	393.02	39.6	40.5	41.9	9.31	9.43	9.38	8.84	7.98	7.09
Nondurable Goods	297.26	299.83	280.76	39.9	40.3	39.6	7.45	7.44	7.09	7.00	6.48	5.85
Food and Kindred Products	211.67	210.60	205.06	34.7	36.0	35.6	6.10	5.85	5.76	5.84	5.50	5.01
Textile Mill Products	252.95	259.37	212.31	42.3	42.8	39.1	5.98	6.06	5.43	5.49	5.17	4.79
Apparel	206.42	207.31	198.15	37.6	37.9	37.6	5.49	5.47	5.27	5.23	4.97	4.49
Paper and Allied Products	513.02	512.11	496.80	45.4	45.4	46.3	11.30	11.28	10.73	10.10	9.27	8.31
Leather and Leather Products	207.76	213.01	209.21	37.3	37.7	37.9	5.57	5.65	5.52	5.46	5.10	4.72
Other Nondurable Goods	262.02	264.26	249.48	39.7	40.1	38.5	6.60	6.59	6.48	6.23	5.75	5.23
PORTLAND SMSA												
Manufacturing	295.29	298.37	284.10	38.2	38.8	38.6	7.73	7.69	7.36	7.19	6.49	5.85
LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA												
Manufacturing	245.57	244.67	229.46	39.8	39.4	38.5	6.17	6.21	5.96	5.96	5.57	5.08

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM	This Month 1/	Last Month 1/	Year Ago 2/
Labor Force	223.5	230.0	213.9
Unemployed	18.9	19.4	18.2
(Percent)	8.5	8.4	8.5
Resident Employed	204.6	210.5	195.7

U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
(1967=100) All Items (CPI-U)	302.6	301.8	294.1	292.4

Percent Change for Past Month	+0.3
Percent Change from Last December	+3.5
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.9

1/ Preliminary estimates 2/ Revised

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

in Thousands

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE - Statewide	529.9	556.0	515.1	490.8	516.8	477.1	39.1	39.2	38.0	7.4	7.1	7.4
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor-Brewer LMA	45,400	44,700	42,600	42,100	41,800	39,700	3,300	2,900	2,900	7.3	6.5	6.8
Biddeford-Sanford LMA	32,200	32,500	31,800	29,900	30,100	29,100	2,300	2,400	2,700	7.1	7.4	8.5
Lewiston-Auburn SMSA	39,100	39,900	38,200	36,100	36,800	35,100	3,000	3,100	3,100	7.7	7.8	8.1
Portland SMSA	100,700	99,300	95,400	94,900	93,900	90,000	5,800	5,400	5,400	5.8	5.4	5.7
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	28,920	29,540	28,590	27,060	27,760	26,440	1,860	1,870	2,150	6.4	6.3	7.5
Bath-Brunswick	24,260	24,280	24,670	22,750	23,000	23,520	1,510	1,280	1,150	6.2	5.3	4.7
Belfast	11,240	11,190	10,610	10,070	10,080	9,590	1,170	1,110	1,020	10.4	9.9	9.6
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	8,510	9,420	7,580	8,000	8,930	7,160	510	490	420	6.0	5.2	5.5
Calais-Eastport	14,300	15,030	14,620	12,890	13,550	12,980	1,410	1,480	1,640	9.9	9.8	11.2
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,980	28,310	20,250	17,620	25,000	18,150	3,360	3,310	2,100	16.0	11.7	10.4
Central Penobscot	3,580	3,690	3,560	3,330	3,480	3,310	250	210	250	7.0	5.7	7.0
Dover-Foxcroft	6,810	6,980	6,760	6,360	6,500	6,210	450	480	550	6.6	6.9	8.1
Ellsworth	20,920	23,080	20,050	19,800	21,940	18,960	1,120	1,140	1,090	5.4	4.9	5.4
Farmington	13,130	13,090	13,070	12,020	12,030	12,160	1,110	1,060	910	8.5	8.1	7.0
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,440	8,660	5,150	5,060	8,130	4,700	380	530	450	7.0	6.1	8.7
Greenville	1,550	1,520	1,630	1,490	1,450	1,540	60	70	90	3.9	4.6	5.5
Houlton	5,020	7,670	4,970	4,530	6,980	4,500	490	690	470	9.8	9.0	9.5
Lincoln-Howland	5,560	5,620	5,520	5,180	5,230	5,070	380	390	450	6.8	6.9	8.2
Livermore Falls	5,970	6,350	5,860	5,410	5,740	5,310	560	610	550	9.4	9.6	9.4
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,720	6,460	4,460	4,190	5,880	3,950	530	580	510	11.2	9.0	11.4
Mechanic Falls	2,640	2,740	2,550	2,380	2,460	2,220	260	280	330	9.8	10.2	12.9
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,120	5,230	5,140	4,790	4,900	4,850	330	330	290	6.4	6.3	5.6
Patten-Island Falls	2,480	4,180	2,560	2,290	3,920	2,300	190	260	260	7.7	6.2	10.2
Rockland	17,580	18,030	17,810	16,330	16,730	16,490	1,250	1,300	1,320	7.1	7.2	7.4
Rumford	19,980	19,850	20,040	18,260	18,170	18,420	1,720	1,680	1,620	8.6	8.5	8.1
Sebago Lake Region	10,640	11,310	10,450	9,910	10,560	9,740	730	750	710	6.9	6.6	6.8
Skowhegan	21,680	22,350	21,540	19,510	20,040	19,250	2,170	2,310	2,290	10.0	10.3	10.6
Kittery-York	22,000	24,630	20,100	21,430	23,980	19,460	570	650	640	2.6	2.6	3.2
Southwest Penobscot	8,210	8,390	7,980	7,400	7,540	7,040	810	850	940	9.9	10.1	11.8
Waterville	21,430	21,980	21,620	19,760	20,290	19,950	1,670	1,690	1,670	7.8	7.7	7.7
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,627.3	1,614.1	n/a	1,548.2	1,503.4	n/a	79.1	110.7	n/a	4.9	6.9
Massachusetts	3,033.0	3,023.1	3,029.4	2,838.0	2,810.1	2,810.1	195.0	213.0	219.3	6.4	7.0	7.2
New Hampshire	n/a	505.9	490.3	n/a	487.9	453.9	n/a	18.0	36.4	n/a	3.6	7.4
Rhode Island	484.7	481.8	482.3	453.1	449.7	437.2	31.6	32.1	45.1	6.5	6.7	9.3
Vermont	n/a	268.5	268.0	n/a	255.1	251.3	n/a	13.4	16.7	n/a	5.0	6.2
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	5,906.6	5,884.1	n/a	5,551.0	5,455.9	n/a	355.6	428.2	n/a	6.0	7.3
UNITED STATES 3/	112,042	112,197	110,767	102,659	102,366	99,825	9,383	9,830	10,942	8.4	8.8	9.9

Area Definitions
LMA - Labor Market Area
SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

Note
n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.
Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

Footnotes
1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to a place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
3/ National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment (Less Partials)

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	STATEWIDE Last Month	STATEWIDE Year Ago	PORTLAND SMSA This Month	PORTLAND SMSA Last Month	PORTLAND SMSA Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA This Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Last Month	LEWISTON-AUBURN SMSA Year Ago
Number of Continued-Week Claimants	8,219	7,855	11,815	1,102	1,099	1,727	527	564	974
Insured Unemployment Rate *	2.1	2.0	3.0	1.3	1.3	2.1	1.6	1.8	3.0

* Should not be confused with insured unemployment rates as defined in the Employment Security Law.

A PARTIAL LISTING OF THE DATA ITEMS PROVIDED IN THIS SERIES INCLUDES: TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME, MAJOR SOURCES OF PERSONAL INCOME, PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME, DISPOSABLE PERSONAL INCOME, PER CAPITA DISPOSABLE INCOME, AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS BY MAJOR SOURCE. ALL OF THESE ITEMS HAVE BEEN UPDATED TO 1982, AND SOME ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1983.

ALL ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR MAINE AND MOST ARE AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTY LEVEL. SOME ITEMS, INCLUDING TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME AND PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME, ARE AVAILABLE FOR EACH STATE AND EACH REGION OF THE COUNTRY (SUCH AS NEW ENGLAND, GREAT LAKES, AND PACIFIC STATES).

THE LATEST DATA AVAILABLE FROM THE BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS INDICATES THAT BETWEEN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1982 AND THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1983 SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME IN MAINE ROSE BY 7.4 PERCENT, OR $753 MILLION. MOST OF THIS GROWTH IN INCOME WAS THE RESULT OF AN 8.2 PERCENT INCREASE IN NET EARNINGS ($535 MILLION). TRANSFER PAYMENTS, WHICH INCREASED BY 12.0 PERCENT, ACCOUNTED FOR AN ADDITIONAL $225 MILLION. DIVIDENDS, INTEREST, AND RENT DECLINED SLIGHTLY, PRIMARILY AS A RESULT OF LOWER INTEREST RATES.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING PERSONAL INCOME DATA, PLEASE CONTACT THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH, 20 UNION STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330, OR CALL (207) 289-2271.

The Employment Security programs are affiliated with U.S. Employment and Training Administration. Published under Appropriation No. 03444.2

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
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BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Division of Economic Analysis and Research

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OCTOBER 1983

MAINE JOB SERVICE

"For Qualified Workers Contact Your Local Bureau of Employment Security Job Service Office"

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